

PSC NEWS Missouri Public Service Commission

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA ADVISORY PSC LOCAL PUBLIC HEARING IN HANNIBAL IN SBC MISSOURI REQUEST FOR COMPETITIVE CLASSIFICATION IN SOME OF ITS EXCHANGES

JEFFERSON CITY---The Missouri Public Service Commission will hold a local public hearing in **Hannibal**, **Missouri**, **on Friday**, **October 7**, **2005**, to receive customer comment on a request filed by Southwestern Bell Telephone, L.P., d/b/a SBC Missouri to have some of its exchanges classified as competitive under a new law (SB 237) which took effect on August 28, 2005. SBC Missouri's request includes the Hannibal exchange. SBC Missouri is seeking competitive classification in 51 of its residential exchanges and 30 of its business exchanges.

If competitive status is granted, SBC Missouri would no longer be subject to price or rate regulation by the PSC. SBC Missouri would be permitted to raise or lower its telephone prices at its own discretion, subject to the marketplace. The PSC would continue to regulate quality of service, service termination and other billing issues.

Due to the large number of exchanges at issue, this local public hearing will be conducted by two-way video conference with the communities of Kirksville and Mexico. Members of the public are invited to attend and provide comment on SBC Missouri's request and the nature and amount of telephone competition in the customer's exchange. Commissioner Robert Clayton will be in attendance at the hearing.

A question and answer session will be held for the first 30 minutes so that the public can ask questions about the request. The public comment period will begin immediately thereafter.

The Hannibal local public hearing schedule appears below:

October 7, 2005-Noon* Hannibal

MACC/Hannibal Higher Education Center Hannibal Regional Office Center 109 Virginia St., Suite 290, Room 203

* The informal question and answer session will be held from noon until 12:30 pm. The local public hearing for customer comment begins at 12:30 pm and will continue until 2:30 pm or until everyone present has had an opportunity to speak, whichever is sooner.

A list of the exchanges in the SBC Missouri request appears on the following page.

Residential exchanges (51):

Antonia Archie Ash Grove Billings Bonne Terre Boonville Camdenton Cape Girardeau Carthage Cedar Hill Chillicothe Clever De Soto Eldon **Excelsior Springs** Dexter Farley Festus-Crystal City Flat River Fulton Grain Valley Gravois Mill **Gray Summit** Greenwood Herculaneum-Pevely Hannibal High Ridge Hillsboro Imperial Joplin Kennett Jackson Kirksville Lake Ozark-Osage Beach Marionville Marshall Neosho Maxville Mexico Moberly Portage Des Sioux Richmond Poplar Bluff San Antonio Sedalia Sikeston St. Clair Union

Webb City

Ware

Webb City

Walnut Grove

Ware

Business exchanges (30): Archie Ash Grove Billings Boonville Carthage Cedar Hill Chaffee Chillicothe **Excelsior Springs** De Soto Dexter Farley **Gray Summit** Hannibal Hillsboro Kennett Kirksville Marionville Marshall Linn Neosho Mexico Moberly Montgomery City Portage Des Sioux Richmond St. Clair Union